

About the Hard of Hearing program

Are you or a family member frustrated and isolated because of a hearing loss? Help is available to you through the Sanderson Center in Taylorsville (south of Salt Lake City) and the Southern Utah Program in St. George.

Hard of Hearing Specialists can:

- Work with individuals and families who are adjusting to hearing loss
- Assist with problems related to employment and school settings
- Provide case management and support services
- Give information and referrals to resources and support groups
- Offer education and assistance with diverse assistive technology
- Advocate for students with hearing loss in school settings
- Develop individualized resources and strategies to cope with daily living problems related to hearing loss
- Teach Classes for Hard of Hearing People:
 - Basic sign language called CASE which stands for Conceptually Accurate Signed English. It increases communication skills and learns the American Sign Language (ASL) and uses them with English syntax and grammar. The signs supplement spoken English.
 - Living with Hearing Loss is to help individuals and families to improve communication barriers
 - Speechreading helps to develop better communication skills.
 - Tinnitus increases knowledge and coping skills living with Tinnitus.
 - Hearing Aids help people adjust to life using hearing aids.
 - Coping Skills helps with the emotional needs and many resources are given.
- Refer to employment and rehabilitation services, mental health professionals and other appropriate services
- Provide information on hearing loss in general, hearing aids, cochlear implants, ototoxic drugs and related issues
- Identify rights and responsibilities related to communication access under the American with Disabilities Act (ADA)
- Assist people who are Hard of Hearing and have low vision
- Provide workshops, in-service training, exhibit booths, and presentation on a variety of topics related to hearing loss.

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Hard of Hearing Assistants – help individuals who are hard of hearing throughout the state of Utah. The goal is to have a network of trained Assistants throughout Utah to identify individuals, who are isolated and not aware of available services. Hard of Hearing Assistants can provide information on equipment and resources, and teach classes to aid with adjustment.

- Teach same classes as the Hard of Hearing Specialist.
- Assist senior citizen and others with hearing loss
- Educate other about assistive technology, cochlear implant, and resources
- Be a peer mentor to others with hearing loss
- Help individuals with employment issues relating to hearing loss
- Develop a network of hearing loss service providers in the state of Utah
- Help the Hard of Hearing Specialist with one-on-one situations
- Give information/referrals about resources and support groups

If you are looking for a Hard of Hearing Assistant in your area, outside of Salt Lake City and St. George's area, send an email to rtraveller@utah.gov where you will be directed to the right person.